

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 /080 W
----- 016447

R 201129Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8471

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NI, SF

SUBJECT: FMG HOSTILITY TO DIALOGUE

REF: LAGOS 2090

1. IN AIRPORT INTERVIEW MARCH 19, GENERAL GOWON WAS ASKED ABOUT REPORT IN SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS THAT NIGERIAN BUSINESSMEN WERE VISITING RSA TO NEGOTIATE EXCHANGE OF NIGERIAN OIL FOR SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD.

2. IN HIS REPLY, GOWON SAID FMG WILL INVESTIGATE REPORTED TRIP AND WOULD TAKE "NECESSARY STEPS" TO STOP THOSE WHO "EMBARRASS THEIR COUNTRY FOR LOVE OF MONEY." HE ADDED THAT NO CRUDE OIL SALES CAN TAKE PLACE WITHOUT FMG AUTHORITY, AND REFERRED TO REPORTED VISIT BY BUSINESSMEN AS "ILLEGAL" BECAUSE
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IT VIOLATES FMG FOREIGN POLICY.

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED REFTEL AND PREVIOUS, FMG STRONGLY
OPPOSES VISITS EVEN BY PRIVATE NIGERIANS TO SOUTH AFRICA, BUT WE
UNDERSTAND THERE IS NO SPECIFIC LEGAL BARRIER TO SUCH TRAVEL. IT
REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER "INVESTIGATION" PROMISED BY GOWON WILL
LEAD TO MORE STRINGENT RESTRICTION ON CONTACT WITH SOUTH AFRICA.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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